

Quispamsis United Church

November 20th, 2022 - Reign of Christ Sunday

Liturgical Colour: Red/White

Presider: Rev. Richard Bowley

Musician: Angela Murphy

Reader: Diane Tonge

Centering Passage: *'You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden.*

-Matthew 5:14

GATHERING TOGETHER

Lighting the Christ Candle: When all the other lights go out, the light of Christ shines in and through us to guide us on. We light this candle to remind us of that hope.

Welcome & Lighting of Affirm Candle

Acknowledgement of Territories

Celebrations & Announcements

Opening Music

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Call to Worship (Responsive):

The Lord, the God of Jacob be with you,

the presence of Christ be with us all.

In times of triumph or trouble, lift up your hearts,

we lift them up to the one who saves and secures.

In thanks, we come before our shepherd and guide through struggle and strife.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Hymn:

Rejoice the Lord is King

VU 213

Rejoice, the Lord is King!

Your risen Lord adore!

Rejoice, give thanks and sing

and triumph evermore:

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;

rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

**Jesus the Saviour reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our sins,
he took his seat above.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!**

**God's kingdom cannot fail;
Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus given.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!**

**Rejoice in glorious hope,
for Christ, the Judge, shall come
to glorify the saints
for their eternal home:
We then shall hear the archangel's voice;
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!**

Opening Prayer:

Holy God of power and might, your Holy Presence renews the face of the earth and warms the hearts of your people. We give you thanks for your gifts of guidance: the whispers that find our ear through the din of chaos; light that scatters darkness; the feeling of hope that is so strong that armies of despair cannot overcome it. And so it is that we join with every voice and tongue on earth and in the heavens to give you praise:

Song of Creation:

MV 203

**O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.
All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.
Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise.
And blessed is the One who comes and bears your name always!**

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Remembering the Meal (Responsive):

Let us remember together that vision of God's reign shown to us in Jesus at table:

he shared food with followers and friends,
with saints and sinners,
with crowds of thousands on the hillside,
and a few friends in an upper room.

On the night before he died, he had supper with his companions.

He took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

“Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he passed it among them, saying:

“Drink this. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.

Saving God, we rejoice in the gift of the Holy Spirit, our comforter in times of trouble, and our guide through the darkest night. We remember Christ’s life and death, proclaiming his resurrection. We wait in hope for his coming again. Grant that in praise and thanksgiving, we may so offer ourselves to you that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

Affirmation of Memory and Hope:

MV 204

**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

**Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Theme Conversation

Sung Prayer of Illumination:

Teach me God

VU 299 (vs 4)

**Teach me God to know you,
hear you when you speak,
See you in my neighbour
when we meet.**

**Praise to you be given,
love for you be lived,
Life be celebrated,
joy you give.**

Reading: Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20; 37:1-7; 2:1-4

In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, King Sennacherib of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them. The king of Assyria sent the Rabshakeh from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem, with a great army. He stood by the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the Fuller’s Field. And there came out to him Eliakim son of Hilkiah, who was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the secretary, and Joah son of Asaph, the recorder.

Then the Rabshakeh stood and called out in a loud voice in the language of Judah, ‘Hear the words of the great king, the king of Assyria! Thus says the king: “Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you. Do not let Hezekiah make you rely on the Lord by saying, The Lord will surely deliver us; this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.” Do not listen to Hezekiah; for thus says the king of Assyria: “Make your peace with me and come out to me; then every one of you will eat from your own vine and your own fig tree and drink water from your own cistern, until I come

and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and wine, a land of bread and vineyards. Do not let Hezekiah mislead you by saying, The Lord will save us. Has any of the gods of the nations saved their land out of the hand of the king of Assyria? Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim? Have they delivered Samaria out of my hand? Who among all the gods of these countries have saved their countries out of my hand, that the Lord should save Jerusalem out of my hand?" '

When King Hezekiah heard it, he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the house of the Lord. And he sent Eliakim, who was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the secretary, and the senior priests, covered with sackcloth, to the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz. They said to him, 'Thus says Hezekiah, This day is a day of distress, of rebuke, and of disgrace; children have come to birth, and there is no strength to bring them forth. It may be that the Lord your God heard the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to mock the living God, and will rebuke the words that the Lord your God has heard; therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left.'

When the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah, Isaiah said to them, 'Say to your master, "Thus says the Lord: Do not be afraid because of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have reviled me. I myself will put a spirit in him, so that he shall hear a rumour, and return to his own land; I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land." '

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Message In the Face of Despair

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn:

Crown Him with many crowns
**Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!**

VU 211

**Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.**

**His glories now we sing,
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.**

**Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
absorbed in prayer and praise.**

**His reign shall know no end;
and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of Paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.**

**Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.**

**All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me:
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.**

How Can I Give?

1/ If you have internet banking, you can E-transfer funds to QUC by sending the funds to QUC@nb.aibn.com. Do not forget to send a separate email with the answer to your security question.

2/ Go to www.CanadaHelps.org and search for Quispamsis United Church. You can give to the church by using your credit card. The address says Gondola Point, do not worry, that is us.

3/ Mail or deliver your giving's to our treasurer, Brion Crossman, 22 Country Crescent, Quispamsis, E2E 1T2

4/ You can sign up for a pre-authorized remittance (PAR) donation which comes out of your bank account or credit card once a month. You can cancel this at any time. Contact Brion Crossman at 849-6003 for details.

5/ if you come for in-person worship, there is a plate as you enter the church where you can place your offering.

6/ As we consider the greater work of the United Church consider giving to Mission and Service Fund through your regular offering or at <https://united-church.ca>

Offertory Dedication Hymn:

Your Work O God

VU 537 (vs 1)

**Your work, O God, needs many hands
to help you everywhere,
and some there are who cannot serve
unless our gifts we share.**

Instruction and Invitation

Blessing What We Bring (Responsive):

Holy God, we pray for your Spirit.

Make us, while many, one.

Make us, though broken, whole.

Make us, despite death, alive.

And so we pray:

Come, Holy Spirit, come. Guide us in our work as we strive to be builders of the kingdom.

AMEN

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Great AMEN

MV 205

Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!

Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and Amen!

Breaking the Bread and Pouring the Cup:

This is the body of Christ, bread for the journey, nourishment for our souls.

This is the blood of Christ, the cup of promise, poured out for all.

Sharing the Bread and the Cup (Responsive):

These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Come now for all has been made ready.

****Those who wish may come forward to receive their bread and cup.*

Please take it with you back to your seats.

*Once all have their elements, we will eat and drink together as a community of faith and love****

Hymn: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus VU 2

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.**

**Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.**

**Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning (Responsive):

The world is filled with so much to bring fear and despair.

If we live in fear we stand still, and there is no future.

If we live in hope, there is always a way forward.

May we live in hope, and by God's grace,

this day, and all our days.

Benediction

Go now with the love of God in your heart, the peace of Christ in your hands, and with the power of the Holy Spirit at your backs to share the Good News you have heard this day. AMEN

Choral Closing:

Walk with me

VU 649 (vs 4)

Refrain:

**Walk with me, I will walk with you
and build land that God has planned
where love shines through.**

**And when you share your faith with me
and work for life need new,
The witness of your faithfulness
calls me to walk with you. R**

Closing Music